

17 February 1836.—6 WILL. IV.

304



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B I L L

For Registering Births, Deaths and Marriages in England.

[Note.—The Words printed in *Italics* are proposed to be inserted
in the Committee.]

WE, WHEREAS it is expedient to provide the means for a complete Register of the Births, Deaths and Marriages of His Majesty's Subjects in England :

And whereas an Act passed in the fifty-second year of the reign of his late Majesty King GEORGE the Third, intituled, "An Act for the better regulating Parish and other Registers of Births, Baptisms, Marriages and Burials in England," and also an Act passed in the fourth year of the reign of his late Majesty King GEORGE the Fourth, intituled, "An Act for amending the Laws respecting the Solemnization of Marriages in England," are insufficient for the purpose aforesaid :

BE it therefore Enacted, by The KING's most Excellent MAJESTY, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, THAT after the *Thirty-first* day of December in this year so much of the said Acts as relates to the Registration of Marriages shall be Repealed.

1.
So much of
52 Geo. 3.
c. 146, and
4 Geo. 4.
c. 76, as re-
lates to Regis-
tration of
Marriages,
Repeated.

And be it Enacted, That it shall be lawful for His Majesty to provide a proper Office in London or Westminster, to be called "The General Register Office," for keeping a Register of all Births, Deaths and Marriages of His Majesty's Subjects in England.

2.
General Re-
gistry Office
to be provided
in London or
Westminster.

And be it Enacted, That the keeping of the said Register, and the control of the Officers, Clerks and Servants employed about the same, shall be given to the Poor Law Commissioners for England and Wales

3.
Poor Law
Commis-
sioners to have
the care of the
Register.

for the time being, and as often as there shall be no such Commissioners, shall be given to the Registrar General hereinafter mentioned, under the direction of one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

4.

Registrar General, Inspectors, and Clerks, appointed with Salaries.

And be it Enacted, That it shall be lawful for His Majesty to appoint for the said Office a Registrar General of Births, Deaths and Marriages; and the Poor Law Commissioners, or, as often as there shall be no such Commissioners, the Registrar General, shall appoint a sufficient number of Clerks, Officers and Servants for the said Register Office, at such yearly Salaries as to the Lord High Treasurer or Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury from time to time shall seem fit; and the Registrar General shall hold his Office during the pleasure of His Majesty, and the Clerks, Officers and Servants of the said Register Office shall hold their Offices during the pleasure of the Poor Law Commissioners, or of the Registrar General, as often as there are no such Commissioners. 15

5.
Regulations for conduct of Officers, to be framed under direction of Secretary of State.

And be it Enacted, That any one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, or the Poor Law Commissioners, with the approbation of such Principal Secretary, from time to time may make regulations for the management of the said Register Office, and the duties of the Registrar General, Clerks, Officers and Servants of the said Office, and of the Registrars, Deputy Registrars and Superintendent Registrars hereinafter mentioned, in the execution of this Act, so that they be not contrary to the provisions herein contained; and the regulations so made shall be binding on the said Registrar General, Clerks, Officers and Servants, and on the Registrars, Deputy Registrars 25 and Superintendent Registrars.

6.
Registrar to report to Secretary of State; annual Abstract to be laid before Parliament.

And be it Enacted, That the Registrar shall from time to time give to any one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State such information respecting the said Register as the said Principal Secretary shall require, and once in every year shall send to one of the Principal Secretaries of State a General Abstract of the numbers of Births, Deaths and Marriages registered during the foregoing year, in such form as the said Secretary from time to time shall require; and every such annual General Abstract shall be laid before Parliament within *One Month* after receipt thereof, or after the meeting of Parliament. 30 35

7.
Guardians of Unions to appoint Registrars and Superintendent Registrars.

And be it Enacted, That the Guardians of every Union, declared under the provisions of an Act passed in the fifth and sixth year of His present Majesty, intituled, "An Act for the Amendment and better Administration of the Laws relating to the Poor in England and Wales," and also of every Parish or Place in which a Board of Guardians shall have been established under the provisions of the last-named Act, at their first meeting after the said *Thirty-first day of December*, shall appoint 40 such

such and so many of the Relieving Officers, or other Persons properly qualified in the judgment of the Commissioners, or Registrar General, if there are no Commissioners, as to the Guardians shall seem fit, to be Registrars of that District, and, subject to the approval of the Commissioners, shall determine the district for which each Registrar shall act, and shall appoint the Clerk or Auditor of the Board of Guardians or other Person properly qualified in the judgment of the Commissioners or Registrar General as aforesaid, to be a Superintendent Registrar ; and in every case of vacancy of either Office shall forthwith fill up the 10 vacancy in manner aforesaid.

And be it Enacted, That the Guardians shall provide and uphold, out of the monies coming to their hands as such Guardians, a District Register Office, according to a plan to be approved by the Poor Law Commissioners, for preserving the Registers to be deposited therein, as 15 hereinafter mentioned ; and the care of the said District Office, and the custody of the Registers deposited therein, shall be given to the Superintendent Registrar of the District.

And be it Enacted, That the Rate-payers, in vestry assembled, of every parish, township or place separately maintaining its own poor, 20 in which no Board of Guardians shall have been established under the said Act for the Amendment of the Laws relating to the Poor, shall appoint, as soon as conveniently may be, after the said *Thirty-first* day of *December*, *One* or more fit Persons to be the Registrar or Registrars of such parish, township or place, or of such part thereof as 25 the Vestry, subject to the approval of the Commissioners, shall direct :

Provided always, That for the purposes of this Act every parish, township or place separately maintaining its own Poor, the population of which, according to the last Census, did not then exceed *Three hundred* Persons, and every extra-parochial place, shall be taken to be part of 30 the adjoining parish, township or place separately maintaining its own poor, with which it has the longest common boundary : Provided also, That the Rate-payers of any *Two* or more such parishes, townships or places may, if they think fit, appoint the same Registrar or Registrars.

And be it Enacted, That the Commissioners shall send immediately 35 after the said *Thirty-first* day of *December*, to every Clerk of the Peace in England, a List of all the Parishes, Townships, and Places, in the County or other District for which he is Clerk of the Peace, not united or in which a Board of Guardians shall not be then established under the provisions of the said Act for the Amendment of the Laws 40 relating to the Poor ; and the Court of Quarter Sessions of the County or other district shall appoint a sufficient number of fit Persons to be Superintendent Registrars for such parishes, townships and places, and shall appoint the District which each shall superintend, and shall provide and appoint a fit and secure place for the custody of the

8.
District Regis-
ter Offices to
be provided.

9.
Rate-payers of
Parishes not
united under
the Poor Law
Act to appoint
Registrars for
the Parish.

Parishes of
300 Persons,
and Extra-pa-
rochial Places,
to be deemed
part of next
Parish.

Parishes may
be united for
the purposes of
this Act.

10.
Court of
Quarter Ses-
sions to ap-
point Super-
intendent
Registrars for
Parishes not
united.

Registers while in the keeping of such Superintendent Registrars, as hereinafter provided; and the Clerk of the Peace, by order of the Court, shall notify to the Commissioners every such appointment, and the District for which each Superintendent is appointed.

11.
Deputy Regis-
trars to be
appointed.

And be it Enacted, That for every district for which a Registrar shall be appointed, the Registrar shall have power, subject to the approval of the Commissioners or Registrar General, to appoint a fit Person to act as his Deputy, in case of the illness or unavoidable absence of such Registrar; and every such Deputy Registrar, whilst so acting, shall have all the powers and duties and be subject to all the provisions and penalties herein declared concerning Registrars. 10

12.
Registrars
and Superin-
tendent Regis-
trars to hold
their office
until removed
by the Com-
missioners.

And be it Enacted, That every Registrar, Deputy Registrar and Superintendent Registrar shall hold his office until he shall be removed by the Commissioners, or by the Registrar General, if there shall be no such Commissioners, or until he shall cease to hold his office under the provisions hereinafter contained; and no person removed from the office of Registrar, Deputy Registrar or Superintendent Registrar by the said Commissioners, or Registrar General, shall be thenceforward eligible to any such office without the approval of the said Commissioners or Registrar General respectively. 15 20

13.
In case of
subsequent
Unions, pre-
vious Appoint-
ments to be
vacated.

Provided always, and be it Enacted, That as soon as a Board of Guardians shall have been established in any such parish, township or place under the provisions of the said Act for the amendment of the Laws relating to the Poor, the Guardians shall forthwith proceed to appoint Registrars, Deputy Registrars and Superintendent Registrars, 25 in like manner as in the Unions formed before the *passing of this Act*; and thereupon the Registrars, Deputy Registrars and Superintendent Registrars appointed before the election of such Board of Guardians as aforesaid, in or for such parish, township or place, shall cease to hold their respective offices unless reappointed by the Guardians. 30

14.
Appointments
to be exempt
from Stamp
Duties.

And be it Enacted, That the Appointments of Registrars, Deputy Registrars and Superintendent Registrars, and the duplicates and certified copies of Registers hereinafter mentioned, shall be exempt from all Stamp Duties.

15.
All Books, &c.
to be transfe-
red on removal
of Registrar.

And be it Enacted, That in every case in which any Registrar or 35 Superintendent Registrar shall be removed from or cease to hold the said office, all Register Books and Papers in his possession as such Registrar or Superintendent shall be given as soon as conveniently may be to his successor in office; and if any Person shall refuse to give up the said Books and Papers in such case as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for

for any of His Majesty's Superior Courts at Westminster, or any Judge of the said Courts, upon summary application made for that purpose, to grant a Rule upon the Party to show cause why the said Books should not be forthwith delivered up, and to make an absolute Rule for delivering up the same, and to proceed by attachment in the usual way, in case such last-mentioned Rule shall not be complied with.

16.

And be it Enacted, That every Registrar or Deputy Registrar (as the case may be) shall cause his name and place of abode, with the addition of Registrar or Deputy Registrar (as the case may be) for the district for which he shall be so appointed, to be placed in some conspicuous place on or near the outer door of his own dwelling-house.

Registrar's Name and Place of Abode to be put on Door of Churches, &c.

17.

And be it Enacted, That the Registrar General shall cause to be printed, on account of the said Register Office, a sufficient number of Register Books, for making entries of all Births, Deaths and Marriages of His Majesty's Subjects in England, according to the forms of Schedules (A.), (B.), (C.), to this Act annexed ; and the said Register Books shall be of durable materials, and in them shall be printed upon each side of every leaf the heads of information herein required to be known and registered of Births, Deaths and Marriages respectively ; and every page of each of such Books shall be numbered progressively from the beginning to the end, beginning with number one ; and every place of entry shall be also numbered progressively from the beginning to the end of the Book, beginning with number one ; and every entry shall be divided from the following entry by a printed line.

Register Books to be provided.

18.

And be it Enacted, That the Registrar General shall furnish to every Superintendent Registrar, for the use of the Registrars under his superintendence, a sufficient number of Register Books of Births, and of Register Books of Deaths, and of Forms for certified Copies thereof, as hereinafter provided, at a reasonable price to be fixed from time to time by one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, and to be paid on demand in each case by the parties by whom the Registrar is appointed to the Registrar, and by him accounted for to the Registrar General ; and every Registrar shall be authorized and is hereby required to inform himself carefully of every Birth and every Death which shall happen within his District after the said *Thirty-first* day of *December*, and to learn and register as soon after the event as conveniently may be done, without fee or reward, save as hereinafter mentioned, in one of the said Books, the particulars required to be registered according to the Forms in the said Schedules (A.) and (B.) respectively, touching every such Birth or every such Death, as the case may be, which shall not have been already registered, every such entry being made in order from the beginning to the end of the Book : and at the least *Four* times in every year, on such days as shall from time to time be appointed

Registrars to register Births and Deaths : Register and certified Copy to be delivered to Superintendent.

by the Registrar General, every Registrar shall make and deliver to the Superintendent Registrar of his District on parchment or vellum, a true Copy, certified by him under his hand, according to the Form of Schedule (D.) to this Act annexed, of all the entries of Births and Deaths in the Register Book kept by him since the last certificate; and the 5 Superintendent Registrar shall verify the same, and if found to be correct shall certify the same, under his hand, to be a true copy; and if there shall have been no Birth or Death registered since the delivery of the last certificate, the Registrar shall certify the fact, and such certificate shall be delivered to the Superintendent Registrar as aforesaid, 10 and countersigned by him; and the Registrar shall keep safely each of the said Register Books until it shall be filled, and shall then deliver it to the Superintendent Registrar.

19.
Occupiers of
Houses in
which Birth
or Death
happens, and
in cases of
Foundlings
or exposed
dead bodies,
Overseers and
Coroners re-
quired to give
notice to the
Registrar.

And be it Enacted, That the Occupier of every house or tenement in England in which any Birth or Death shall happen, after the said *Thirty-first* day of *December* shall within *Eight* Days next after the day of such Birth, or within *Three* Days after the day of such Death respectively, give Notice of such Birth or Death to the Registrar of the District; and in case any new-born child or any dead body shall be found exposed, the Overseers of the Poor in the case of the new-born child, and the 20 Coroner, in the case of the dead body, shall forthwith give notice and information thereof, and of the place where such child or dead body was found, to the Registrar; and every Person herein required who shall refuse, or without reasonable cause neglect to give such Notice as aforesaid, shall forfeit for every such offence a sum not exceeding *Twenty-five* Shillings; and for the purposes of this Act the Master or Keeper of every Gaol, Prison or House of Correction, or Workhouse, Hospital or Lunatic Asylum shall be deemed the occupier thereof.

20.
Parent
or Occupier
of House, re-
quired to give
particulars of
Birth, so far
as known.

And be it Enacted, That the Father or Mother of every Child born in England after the said *Thirty-first* day of *December*, or in case of 30 the death, illness, absence or inability of the Father and Mother, the Occupier of the House or Tenement in which such Child shall have been born, shall within *Fifteen* Days next after the day of every such Birth give information, upon being requested so to do, to the said Registrar, according to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, of the several 35 particulars hereby required to be known and registered touching the Birth of such Child.

21.
Children born
at Sea may be
registered.

And be it Enacted, That if any Child of an English Parent shall be born at Sea, the Father or Mother, or some person present at the Birth of such Child, or in default thereof the Surgeon or Captain or Commanding Officer of the Vessel on board of which the said Child shall have been born, shall forthwith certify the several particulars hereinbefore required to be inserted in the Register touching the Birth of such 40 Child,

Child, so far as the same may be known, and the name of the Vessel wherein the Birth took place; and shall, on the arrival of such Vessel in any Port of the United Kingdom, or by any other sooner opportunity, send the said Certificate through the Post Office to the Registrar-General, who shall keep the same, with the other Registers, according to the provisions of this Act.

And be it Enacted, That after the expiration of *Fifteen Days* following the day of the Birth of any Child, it shall not be lawful for any Registrar to register such Birth, save as hereinafter is next mentioned:

10 Provided, That in case the Birth of any Child shall not have been registered according to the provisions hereinbefore contained, it shall be lawful for any Person present at the Birth of such Child, at any time within *Six calendar Months* next after the Birth, on production of the Child before the Registrar and Superintendent Registrar of the District 15 in which the Birth shall have happened, to declare upon oath, or solemn affirmation, in cases in which by law an affirmation may be substituted for an oath (which Oath or Affirmation the Superintendent Registrar is authorized to administer) the particulars required to be known, touching the Birth of such Child, according to the 20 best of his or her knowledge and belief; and it shall thereupon be lawful for the said Registrar then and there, in the presence of the Superintendent Registrar, to register the Birth of the said Child, according to the information of the Person making the said declaration: Provided nevertheless, That in every such case the Superintendent Registrar before whom the said declaration is made, shall sign the entry of the Birth as well as the Registrar; and for every such Registry as last aforesaid, the Superintendent Registrar shall be entitled to have a fee of *Two Shillings and Sixpence*; and the Registrar, over and above the fee hereinafter enacted in respect of every Birth registered by him, shall be entitled, unless the delay shall have been occasioned by his default, to have a fee of *Two Shillings and Sixpence*, from the Person requiring the same to be registered; and no Register of Births shall be given in evidence to prove the Birth of any Child, wherein it shall appear that *Fifteen Days* have intervened 35 between the day of the Birth and the day of the Registration of the Birth of such Child, unless the entry shall be signed by the Superintendent Registrar; and every Person who shall knowingly register, or cause to be registered the Birth of any Child, otherwise than hereinbefore is last mentioned, after the expiration of *Fifteen Days* following 40 the day of the Birth of such Child, shall forfeit and pay for every such offence a sum not exceeding *Fifty Pounds*.

And be it Enacted, That after the expiration of *Six calendar Months* following the day of the Birth of any Child, it shall not be lawful for any Registrar to register the Birth of such Child, and no Register of

22.
Births, after
Fifteen
Days, to be
registered be-
fore the Super-
intendent
Registrar.

23.
Births not to
be registered
after Six
Months.

Births shall be given in evidence to prove the Birth of any Child, wherein it shall appear that *Six* calendar Months have intervened between the day of the Birth and the day of the Registration of the Birth of such Child; and every Person who shall knowingly register, or cause to be registered, the Birth of any Child, after the expiration of *Six* calendar Months following the day of the Birth of such Child, shall forfeit and pay for every such offence a sum not exceeding *Fifty* Pounds. 5

^{24.}
Baptismal
Name, if
different from
that in Regis-
ter, may be
added.

And be it Enacted, That if any child born in England, whose Birth shall have been registered as aforesaid, shall have any Name subsequently given to it in Baptism, by which it shall not have been so registered, the parent or guardian of such child, or other Person procuring such unregistered Name to be given, is hereby required within *Seven* Days next after such Baptism, to procure and deliver to the Registrar or Superintendent Registrar in whose custody the register of the Birth of the child may then happen to be, a Certificate, according to the Form of Schedule (G.) to this Act annexed, signed by the Minister who shall have performed the rite of Baptism, which Certificate such Minister is hereby required to deliver immediately after the baptism, whenever the same shall be then demanded, on payment 10 of the fee of *One* Shilling, which he shall be therefore entitled to receive, and the said Registrar or Superintendent Registrar, upon receipt of such Certificate, and on payment of the fee of *One* Shilling, which he shall be therefore entitled to receive, shall without any erasure of the original Entry forthwith register therein that the child was baptized 15 by such name; and the Registrar shall thereupon certify upon the said Certificate the additional Entry so made, and shall forthwith send the said Certificate through the Post-office to the Registrar-General; and every Person who shall knowingly cause or procure any Name to be given in baptism to any registered child by which it shall not have been 20 registered, and who shall not within *Seven* Days as aforesaid procure and deliver such Certificate, shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding 25 *Five* Pounds for every such offence. 30

^{25.}
Next of Kin
or other Per-
son present
at death, or
Occupier of
House, re-
quired to give
particulars of
death, so far
as known.

Registrar to
make entry of
finding of Jury
upon Coroners'
Inquests.

And be it Enacted, That the Next of Kin, or other Person present with or attending in his or her last illness, every Person dying in 35 England after the said *Thirty-first* day of *December*, o. in case of the death, illness, inability or default of all such Persons, the Occupier of the House or Tenement in which such death shall have happened, shall, within *Eight* Days next after the day of such death, give information, upon being requested so to do, to the said Registrar, according to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, of the several particulars hereby required to be known and registered touching the death of such Person: Provided always, That in every case in which an Inquest shall be held on any dead Body, the Jury shall inquire of the particulars herein required

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required to be registered concerning the death, and the Coroner shall inform the Registrar of the finding of the Jury, and the Registrar shall make the entry accordingly.

And be it Enacted, That if any of His Majesty's English Subjects
 5 shall die at Sea, the Surgeon, or in default thereof the Captain or Commanding Officer of the Vessel on board of which such death shall have happened, shall forthwith certify the several particulars hereinbefore required to be inserted in the Register touching such death, so far as the same may be known, and the name of the Vessel wherein the death
 10 took place, and shall on the arrival of such Vessel in any port of the United Kingdom, or by any other sooner opportunity, send the said Certificate through the Post-office to the Registrar-General, who shall keep the same, with the other Registers, according to the provisions of this Act.

26.
 Persons dying
 at Sea may be
 registered

15 And be it Enacted, That every Registrar, immediately upon registering any Death, or as soon thereafter as he shall be required so to do, shall, without fee or reward, deliver to the Person having charge of the Funeral, a Certificate under his hand, according to the Form of Schedule (E.) to this Act annexed, that such Death has been duly
 20 registered, and such Certificate shall be delivered by the Person having charge of the Funeral, to the Minister or officiating Person who shall be required to perform any religious service for the burial of the dead body, or to the Person by whose authority the grave or vault shall be dug or opened for the burial of such body, and no dead body shall be buried
 25 until such Certificate shall have been so delivered: Provided always, That the Coroner, upon holding any inquest, may order the body to be buried, if he shall think fit, before registry of the death; and shall in such case give a Certificate of his order in writing under his hand, according to the Form of Schedule (F.) to this Act annexed, to the
 30 Person having charge of the Funeral, which shall be delivered as aforesaid; and every Person who shall perform any funeral or any religious service for the burial of any dead body, or who shall authorize any grave or vault to be dug or opened for the purpose of burying any dead body therein, until a Certificate shall have been duly made and
 35 delivered as aforesaid, shall forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding Ten Pounds for every such offence.

27.
 No dead Body
 to be buried
 without Cer-
 tificate of
 Registry or
 of Inquest

And be it Enacted, That every Register of Birth or Death under this Act shall be signed by the Person by whom the information therein registered shall have been given, and no Register of Birth or Death
 40 according to this Act shall be given in evidence, which shall not be signed by some Person professing to be the Informant, and to be such party as is herein required to give such information to the Registrar.

28.
 Register to be
 signed by the
 Informant.

29.
Registrars to
be paid by
the Overseers
according to
a Scale.

And be it Enacted, That every Registrar shall make out an Account *Four* times in every year of the number of Births and Deaths which he shall have registered since the last *Quarterly* Account, and shall verify the same by a solemn declaration before any Justice, who shall thereupon sign the same, and the Guardians of the Union or Overseers of the parish, township or place for which he shall be Registrar, on production of the said account so verified and signed, shall pay to the said Registrar, out of the monies in their hands or power as such Guardians or Overseers, such sums as he shall be entitled to receive on the said account, according to the following scale; (that is to say) for the first *Twenty* Entries of Births and Deaths in every year which he shall have registered, whether the same be of Births or of Deaths indiscriminately, *Two Shillings and Sixpence* each; and *One Shilling* for every subsequent Entry of Births or Deaths in each year; and in the case of an Union, the said several sums shall be charged to the account *of the Parishes in which such Births or Deaths respectively shall have occurred.*

30.
Marriage Re-
gisters to be
kept, in
Duplicate.

And be it Enacted, That the Registrar General shall furnish to the Rector, Vicar or Curate of every Church and Chapel in England wherein Marriages may lawfully be solemnized, and also to every Person whom the Recording Clerk of the People called Quakers, at their central Office in London, shall from time to time certify in writing under his hand to the Registrar General to be a Registering Officer in England of the said People, and also to every Person whom the Secretaries of the Synagogue in Duke's-place and of the Portuguese Synagogue in Bevis Marks, shall from time to time jointly certify in writing under their hands to the Registrar General to be the Secretary of a Synagogue in England of Persons professing the Jewish Religion, a sufficient number in Duplicate of Marriage Register Books, and Forms for certified Copies thereof as hereinafter provided; and the Officiating Minister in every such Church or Chapel, immediately after every office of Matrimony solemnized by him, shall register in duplicate in two of the Marriage Register Books the several particulars relating to that Marriage, according to the Form of the said Schedule (C.); and every such Registering Officer of the People called Quakers, as soon as conveniently may be, after the solemnization of any Marriage among the People called Quakers, in the district for which he is Registering Officer, and every such Secretary of a Synagogue immediately after every Marriage solemnized by him, or by any other Officer of the Synagogue whereof he is Secretary, between any two Persons professing the Jewish Religion, shall register or cause to be registered in duplicate in two of the said Marriage Register Books the several particulars relating to that Marriage, according to the Form of the said Schedule (C.); and every such Registering Officer or Secretary, whether he shall or shall not be present at such Marriage, shall satisfy himself that

3/9

that the proceedings in relation thereto have been conformable to the usages of the said People called Quakers, or of the Persons professing the Jewish Religion, as the case may be, and shall, for the purpose of signifying the same, sign his name to the Entry thereof; and every 5 such Entry as hereinbefore is mentioned (whether made by such Officiating Minister or by such Registering Officer or Secretary respectively as aforesaid) shall be made in order from the beginning to the end of each Book, and the number of the place of Entry in each duplicate Marriage Register Book shall be the same.

10 And be it Enacted, That every such Officiating Minister, Registering Officer and Secretary shall, within *One* calendar Month next after the *First* day of *January*, the *First* day of *April*, the *First* day of *July*, and the *First* day of *October* respectively, make and deliver to the Superintendent Registrar of the district within which such 15 Marriages were solemnized, on parchment or vellum, a true copy, certified by him, under his hand, of all the Entries of Marriages in the Register Book kept by him since the last Certificate; and if there shall have been no Marriage entered therein since the last Quarterly Certificate, shall certify the fact under his hand, and shall keep the said Marriage Register Books safely until the same shall be filled; and one copy 20 of every such Register Book, when filled, shall be delivered to the Superintendent Registrar of the District, and the other copy of every such Register Book (except the Register Books of Marriage among the People called Quakers, and among Persons professing the Jewish Religion) shall remain in the keeping of the Officiating Minister, and shall 25 be kept by him in the public chest of the parish within which the Marriages registered therein shall have been solemnized; and the other copy of every such Register Book of Marriages among the People called Quakers, and among Persons professing the Jewish Religion respectively, shall remain under the care of the said People 30 or Persons respectively, to be kept with their other Registers and Records, and shall, for the purposes of this Act, be still deemed to be in the keeping of the Registering Officer for the district for the time being of the said People, or of the Secretary for the time being for 35 the Synagogue wherein such Marriages shall have been solemnized.

31.
Duplicates
and certified
Copies to be
sent to Super-
intendent
Registrar.

And be it Enacted, That every Person who, according to the provisions of this Act shall have the keeping, for the time being, of any Register Book of Births, Deaths or Marriages, shall, at all reasonable times, allow Searches to be made of any Register Book in his keeping, 40 and shall give certified Extracts from the same, on payment of the fee hereinafter mentioned; (that is to say) for every Search, extending over a period not more than *One Year*, the sum of , and so in proportion for any number of years or longer time than *One Year*, and the sum of for every single Certificate.

32.
Searches may
be made, and
Certificates
given by the
Persons
keeping the
Registry
Books.

Superintendent Registrars to send certified copies of Registers to the General Register Office.

And be it Enacted, That every Superintendent Registrar shall *Four* times in every year, on such days as shall be therefore named by the Registrar General send to the Registrar General all the certified copies of the Registers of Births, Deaths and Marriages which he shall have so received during the *Three* calendar Months next preceding 5 such *Quarterly* days of transmission respectively; and if it shall appear by interruption of the regular progression of numbers or otherwise, that the copy of any part of any Book has not been duly delivered to him, he shall procure, as far as possible, consistently with the provisions of this Act, that the same may be remedied and supplied; and every such Superintendent Registrar shall be entitled to have the sum of *Twopence* for every Entry in such Certificates, to be paid to him by the Lord High Treasurer or Lords Commissioners of the Treasury out of the Consolidated Fund; and the certified Copies so sent to the General Registry Office shall be thereafter kept in the said Office, in 10 such order and manner as the Registrar General; under such direction as aforesaid, shall think fit, so that the same may be most readily seen and examined.

34.
Certificates of
General Re-
gistry Office
to be sealed.

And be it Enacted, That the said Commissioners shall cause to be made a Seal of the said Register Office, and the Registrar General shall 20 cause to be sealed or stamped therewith all Certificates of Registration given in the said Office; and all Certificates purporting to be sealed or stamped with the Seal of the said Register Office, shall be received as evidence of the same respectively without any further or other proof thereof; and no Certificate purporting to be given in the said Office 25 shall be of any force or effect which is not sealed or stamped as aforesaid.

35.
Indexes to be
kept, Searches
allowed and
Certificates
given.

And be it Enacted, That the Registrar General shall cause Indexes of the said Registers to be made and kept in the General Register Office; and that every Person shall be entitled on payment of the fees 30 hereinafter mentioned to search the said Indexes, between the hours of *Nine* in the Morning and *Four* in the Afternoon of every day, except Sundays, Christmas-day and Good Friday, or on other days authorized to be kept as holydays, and to have a certified Copy of any Entry in the said Registers, sealed or stamped with the seal of the General 35 Register Office; and for every general search of the said Indexes shall be paid the sum of *Twenty Shillings*, and for every particular search the sum of *One Shilling*, and for every such certified Copy the sum of *Two Shillings and Sixpence*, and no more, to the Registrar General, or such other Officer as shall be appointed for that purpose on his account; 40 and every sum received under the provisions of this Act by the Registrar General, or other Officers appointed for that purpose on his account, shall be accounted for by the Registrar General, and paid over to the account of the Consolidated Fund.

And

36.

And be it Enacted, That it shall be lawful for every Officiating Minister who shall solemnize any Marriage in England, and for every Registering Officer of the People called Quakers, and every Secretary of a Synagogue, after the said *Thirty-first* day of *December* to ask of the Parties married the several particulars herein required to be registered touching such Marriage ; and every Person who shall refuse, or without reasonable cause neglect to answer, according to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, shall forfeit and pay a sum not more than *Fifty* Pounds for every such offence.

Penalty on
Parties being
married re-
fusing to
answer
Questions.

5 the Parties married the several particulars herein required to be registered touching such Marriage ; and every Person who shall refuse, or without reasonable cause neglect to answer, according to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, shall forfeit and pay a sum not more than *Fifty* Pounds for every such offence.

10 And be it Enacted, That every Person who shall wilfully make or cause to be made for the purpose of being inserted in any Register of Birth, Death or Marriage, any false statement touching any of the particulars herein required to be known and registered, shall be deemed guilty of *Perjury*, and punished accordingly.

37.

15 And be it Enacted, That every Person who shall refuse, or without reasonable cause omit, to register any Marriage solemnized by him, or which, according to the provisions of this Act, he ought to register ; and every Registrar who shall refuse, or without reasonable cause omit, to register any Birth or Death, of which he shall have had due notice as aforesaid, and every Person having, according to the Provisions of this Act, the keeping of any Register Book or certified copy thereof, or of any part thereof, who shall carelessly lose or injure the same, or carelessly allow the same to be injured whilst in his keeping, shall forfeit a sum not exceeding *Fifty* Pounds for every such offence.

Penalty for
wilfully giving
false informa-
tion.

20 as aforesaid, and every Person having, according to the Provisions of this Act, the keeping of any Register Book or certified copy thereof, or of any part thereof, who shall carelessly lose or injure the same, or carelessly allow the same to be injured whilst in his keeping, shall forfeit a sum not exceeding *Fifty* Pounds for every such offence.

25 And be it Enacted, That every Person who shall wilfully destroy or injure, or cause to be destroyed or injured, any such Register Book or any part, or certified copy of any part thereof, or shall falsely make or counterfeit, or cause to be falsely made or counterfeited, any part of any such Register Book, or certified copy thereof, or shall wilfully insert, or cause to be inserted in any Register Book, or certified copy thereof, any false Entry of any Birth, Death or Marriage, or shall wilfully give any false Certificate, or shall certify any writing to be a copy or extract of any Register Book, knowing the same Register to be false in any part thereof, or shall forge or counterfeit the Seal of the Register Office, shall be guilty of *Felony*, and being lawfully convicted thereof, shall be liable to be *transported* beyond the seas for the term of *his natural life*, or for any number of years not less than *Fourteen*.

38.

30 And be it Enacted, That every Person who shall wilfully destroy or injure, or cause to be destroyed or injured, any such Register Book or any part, or certified copy of any part thereof, or shall falsely make or counterfeit, or cause to be falsely made or counterfeited, any part of any such Register Book, or certified copy thereof, or shall wilfully insert, or cause to be inserted in any Register Book, or certified copy thereof, any false Entry of any Birth, Death or Marriage, or shall wilfully give any false Certificate, or shall certify any writing to be a copy or extract of any Register Book, knowing the same Register to be false in any part thereof, or shall forge or counterfeit the Seal of the Register Office, shall be guilty of *Felony*, and being lawfully convicted thereof, shall be liable to be *transported* beyond the seas for the term of *his natural life*, or for any number of years not less than *Fourteen*.

35 Provided always, and be it Enacted, That no Person charged with the duty of registering any Birth, Death or Marriage, who shall discover any error to have been committed in the form or substance of any such Entry, shall be therefore liable to any of the penalties afore-

40.
Accidental
Errors may be
corrected.

said; if within *One* calendar Month next after the discovery of such error, in the presence of the parents of the child whose birth may have been so registered, or of the Parties married, or of two Persons attending upon any Person in his or her last illness, whose Death may have been so registered, or in case of the death or absence of the respective 5 Parties aforesaid, then in the presence of the Superintendent Registrar, and of two other credible witnesses, who shall respectively attest the same, he shall correct the erroneous entry according to the truth of the case, by entry in the margin, without any alteration of the original entry; and shall sign the marginal entry, and add thereunto the day of 10 the month and year when such correction shall be made: Provided also, That in the case of a Marriage Register, he shall make the like marginal entry, attested in like manner, in the duplicate Marriage Register Book to be made by him as aforesaid; and in every case shall make the like alteration in the certified copy of the Register Book to. 15 be made by him as aforesaid, or in case such certified copy shall have been already made, provided he shall make and deliver in like manner a separate certified copy of the original erroneous entry, and of the marginal correction therein made.

41.
Recovery of
Penalties.

And be it Enacted, That all Fines and Forfeitures by this Act 20 imposed, shall be recovered before any two Justices of the Peace for the county, city or place where the offence shall have happened, upon the information or complaint of any Person; and if on the conviction of the Offender, either on his or her confession, or by the oath of any one or more credible witness or witnesses, (which oath such Justices are hereby 25 empowered to administer) such fines or forfeitures, with the costs of the conviction, shall not be forthwith paid, the same shall be levied by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the Offender, by Warrant under the hand and seal of such Justices; and for want of distress such Justices may commit every such Offender to the Common Gaol or 30 House of Correction for the county, city or place where the Offender shall be committed, without bail or mainprize, for any term not exceeding *One* calendar Month, unless such fine and forfeiture, and all reasonable charges attending the recovery thereof, shall be sooner paid; and *one moiety* of all such fines and forfeitures shall go to the 35 Person who shall inform and sue or prosecute for the same, and the *other moiety* shall go to the Registrar General, or to such other Person as the Commissioners shall appoint for the use of His Majesty; and no Distress made by virtue of this Act shall be deemed unlawful, nor shall the Party making the same be deemed a 40 trespasser on account of any defect or want of form in the summons, conviction or warrant of distress, or on account of any irregularity which shall be afterwards committed by the Party distraining; but the Person or Persons aggrieved by such irregularity shall recover full satisfaction for the special damages sustained in an action on the case.

And

And be it Enacted, That any Justice of the Peace before whom any Person shall be convicted of any offence against this Act, may cause the Conviction to be drawn up according to the following Form; (that is to say)

42.
Form of
Conviction.

5 “ BE it Remembered, That on the day of
 in the year of our Lord
 A. B. is convicted before us,
 two of His Majesty's Justices
 of the Peace for the of for that
 10 he [here specify the Offence and the time when committed, as
 the case may be], contrary to an act of Parliament made
 and passed in the year of the reign of King
 WILLIAM the Fourth, intituled, [here insert the title of this
 Act] : And we, the said Justices, adjudge the said
 15 for his said offence, to forfeit and pay the sum
 of and also to pay the sum of
 for costs ; and in default of pay-
 ment of the said sum forthwith, to be imprisoned in the
 for the space of
 20 unless the said sum shall be sooner paid.
 Given under our hands and seals the day and year first above
 written.”

43.
Appeal.

And be it Enacted, That in all cases where the sum adjudged to be paid on any such summary conviction shall exceed *Five Pounds*, any Person convicted may appeal to the next Court of General or Quarter Sessions which shall be holden not sooner than *Twelve Days* after the day of such conviction for the county or other district wherein the cause of complaint shall have arisen : Provided, That such Person shall give to the Complainant a Notice in writing of such Appeal, and of the cause and matter thereof, within *Three Days* after such conviction, and *Seven clear Days* at the least before such Sessions, and shall also either remain in custody until the Sessions, or enter into a recognizance with *Two sufficient Sureties* before a Justice of the Peace, conditioned personally to appear at the said Sessions, and to try such Appeal, and to abide the Judgment of the Court thereupon, and to pay such costs as shall be by the Court awarded ; and upon such Notice being given, and such Recognizances being entered into, the Court at such Sessions shall hear and determine the matter of the Appeal, and shall make such order therein, with or without costs to either Party, as to the Court shall seem meet ; and in case of the dismissal of the Appeal or the affirmance of the Conviction, shall order and adjudge the Offender to be punished according to the conviction, and to pay such costs as shall be awarded, and shall, if necessary, issue Process for enforcing such Judgment.

^{44.}
No Certiorari. And be it Enacted, That no such Conviction or Adjudication made on Appeal therefrom shall be quashed for want of form, or be removed by Certiorari or otherwise into any of His Majesty's superior Courts of Record; and no Warrant of Commitment shall be held void by reason of any defect therein, provided it be therein alleged that the Party has been convicted, and there be a valid conviction to sustain the same. 5

^{45.}
Schedules
may be
amended by
the advice of
the Lords of
the Privy
Council. And be it Enacted, That it shall be lawful for His Majesty, His heirs and successors, by the advice of His and their Privy Council, from time to time to direct such alterations and additions in and to the said Schedules as to Him and Them shall seem fit; and the Schedules so altered shall thenceforward, or from such future time as His Majesty, His heirs and successors shall so direct, be used instead of the Schedules respectively to this Act annexed, and shall be of the like effect as if the said Schedules had been originally annexed to this Act in such altered form. 10

^{46.}
Registers of
Baptisms and
Burials may
be kept as
heretofore. Provided always, and be it Enacted, That nothing herein contained shall affect the Registration of Baptisms or Burials as now by law established, or the right of any officiating Minister to receive the Fees now usually paid for the performance or registration of any Baptism, Burial or Marriage. 15

SCHEDULES to which this ACT refers.

33.

SCHEDULE (A.)

1836.—BIRTHS in the *Parish of Marylebone*, in the County of *Middlesex*.

N ^o	When Born.	Name.	Sex.	Name and Surname of Father.	Name and Maiden Surname of Mother.	When and where Parents Married.	Rank or Profession of Father.	Signature of Informant.	When Registered.	Signature of Registrar.
1	7th Jan.	<i>James, Baptized Thomas.</i>	<i>Boy.</i>	<i>William Green.</i>	<i>Rebecca Jennings.</i>	<i>3 March 1830. Leominster, Herefordshire.</i>	<i>Carpenter.</i>	<i>William Green, Father.</i>	<i>9 January.</i>	<i>John Cox, Registrar.</i>

The Words and Figures in *Italics* in this Schedule to be filled in as the case may be.

(17)

SCHEDULE (B.)

1836.—DEATHS in the *Parish of Marylebone*, in the County of *Middlesex*.

N ^o	When Died.	Name and Surname.	Sex.	Age.	Where Born.	Rank or Profession.	Signature of Informant.	When Registered.	Signature of Registrar.
17	<i>4 February.</i>	<i>William Green.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>Leominster, Herefordshire.</i>	<i>Carpenter.</i>	<i>Rebecca Green, Widow.</i>	<i>5 February.</i>	<i>John Cox, Registrar.</i>

The Words and Figures in *Italics* in this Schedule to be filled in according as the case may be.

25

SCHEDEULE (C.)

1836.—MARRIAGES solemnized at the Parish Church, in the Parish of Marylebone, in the County of Middlesex.

Nº	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Where Born.	Rank or Description.	Father's Name and Surname.
1	17 March 1836.	William Hastings Sophia Anne Mitchell.	29 22	Seven Oaks, Kent Linton, Dorsetshire	Upholsterer - Spinster - -	Peter Hastings. Geoffry Mitchell.

Married in the Parish Church, according to the usage of the Established Church, by license, by me, with consent of Parents and Guardians. James Hollingshead, Vicar.

This Marriage was solemnized { William Hastings - } in the { John Hastings. between us, { Sophia Anne Mitchell } presence of us { Geoffry Mitchell.

The Words and Figures in *Italics* in this Schedule to be filled in as the case may be.

SCHEDEULE (D.)

I, John Cox, Registrar of Births and Deaths in the Parish of Marylebone, in the County of Middlesex, Do hereby certify, That this is a true Copy of the Registrar's Book of Births [or Deaths], within the said Parish, from the entry of the Birth [or Death] of James Green, No. 1, to the entry of the Birth [or Death] of William Strange, No. 34.

Witness my hand, this *Seventh* day of *March* 1838.

John Cox, Registrar.

SCHEDEULE (E.)

I, John Cox, Registrar of Births and Deaths in the Parish of Marylebone, in the County of Middlesex, Do hereby certify, That the Death of Henry Hastings was duly registered by me on the *Seventh* day of *March* 1836.

Witness my hand, this *Eighth* day of *March* 1836.

John Cox, Registrar.

SCHEDEULE (F.)

I, James Smith, Coroner for the County of Dorset, Do hereby Order the Burial of the Body now shown to the Inquest Jury as the Body of John Jones.

Witness my hand, this *Eighth* day of *March* 1836.

James Smith, Coroner.

SCHEDEULE (G.)

I, Gilbert Elliot, Vicar of Barning, in the County of Kent, Do hereby certify, That I have this day baptized by the name of Thomas, a Male Child, produced to me by William Green, as the Son of William Green and Rebecca Green, and declared by the said William Green to have been born at Marylebone, in the County of Middlesex, on the *Seventh* day of *January* 1836.

Witness my hand, this *First* day of *December* 1838.

Gilbert Elliot, Vicar.

227

Registration of Births, &c.

A

B I L L

For Registering Births, Deaths and Marriages
in England.

(Prepared and brought in by
(*Lord John Russell, Mr. Chancellor of the
Exchequer and Mr. Attorney General.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
17 February 1836.